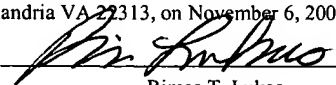




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Rimas T. Lukas

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TC 1700

In the application of:

Thomas M. BAER

Serial No.: 09/844,187

Filing Date: April 26, 2001

For: LASER CAPTURE
MICRODISSECTION (LCM)
EXTRACTION DEVICE AND DEVICE
CARRIER, AND METHOD FOR POST-
LCM FLUID PROCESSING

Examiner: LaToya I. CROSS

Group Art Unit: 1743

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner:

This paper is in response to the Office Action dated October 6, 2003, which sets forth a restriction requirement for pending claims 1-92. A one-month response is due by November 6, 2003. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

Applicants hereby elect Group I (claims 1-13, and 79-82) with traverse. Applicants traverse the restriction requirement because examination of Groups I-V would not place a serious burden on the examiner as all Groups are classified in the same class (422) and same subclass (68.1). Furthermore, it remains important from the standpoint of the public interest that no

restriction requirements be made which might result in the issuance of two or more patents for the same invention. MPEP §803.01.

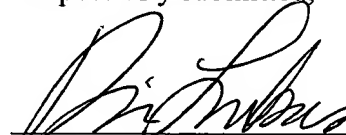
Applicants expressly reserve their right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter during the pendency of this application, or an application claiming priority from this application.

Applicants request examination of the elected subject matter on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 6, 2003

By:



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